

Answers
ESL223: Reading
Textbook: Making Connections

Unit 2: Living in a Multicultural Society
Skills & Strategies 4: Main Ideas

Skill Practice 1, pp. 59-60

1. (a) Sentence 1 gives you your first hypothesis (H_1) for the main idea: "As a general solution for heart disease, heart surgery has some weaknesses." The three examples that follow illustrate the weaknesses of surgery as the answer to the problem of disease, so you do not need to revise your H_1 for the main idea.
2. (c) Sentence 1 gives you your first hypothesis (H_1) for the main idea: "There was an increase of interest in and money for genetic research." Sentence 2 introduces a new idea: "The result of the interest and money was progress in the research"; so you decide to revise your first hypothesis. This gives you hypothesis 2 (H_2): "As a result of increased interest in and funding for genetic research, the 1980s saw a lot of progress in this area." The other sentences of the paragraph contain examples of this progress and support your H_2 .
3. (d) Sentence 1 gives you your first hypothesis (H_1) for the main idea: "Many children in developing countries die from these diseases." Sentence 2 introduces a new idea: "An emphasis on prevention would save most of these children"; so you revise your first hypothesis. This gives you H_2 : "An emphasis on prevention would save most of the 12 million children who die every year from simple diseases." The following sentences in the paragraph support your H_2 by explaining in detail how prevention would save the children.

Skill Practice 2, pp. 61-62

1. (d) Continuing Idea: *these reasons*. Reread the paragraph to identify the reasons and use them in your final main idea hypothesis.
2. (b) Continuing Idea: *this emphasis on treatment*. Reread the paragraph and use this idea as part of your final main idea hypothesis.
3. (d) Continuing Idea: *(second) reason*. Reread the paragraph to identify what the first reason is. Then use it in your final main idea hypothesis.
4. (a) Continuing Idea: *(Similar) successes*. Reread the paragraph to identify the successes and how they are connected with vaccines. Then use these ideas in your final main idea hypothesis.